

### **Wage Agreement In Hindustan Shipyard Limited**

4139. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :  
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :  
SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any wage agreement has been reached between the Management and the Staff Association of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether it has been implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be signed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to critical financial position of HSL, it has been decided to defer the signing of wage agreement.

### **Free Ports at Kanyakumari and Tuticorin**

4140. SHRI R. RAMASAMY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up free ports in Kanyakumari and Tuticorin; and

(b) if so, they progress made in this regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Government have set up an Advisory Committee to examine the desirability and feasibility of establishing a Free Port in India. A Sub-Committee thereof had preliminary discussions with the Tamil Nadu Government when some alternative sites were considered.

### **Sale of Goods from Defence Canteens**

4141. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether no duty is levied on the goods sold by the Defence canteens;

(b) if so, the estimated loss of revenue on this account;

(c) whether these canteens are specifically meant for purposes by the Defence personnel or other persons are also allowed to make purchases there;

(d) the estimated value of goods sold by the Defence canteens to persons other than Defence personnel during the year 1991 so far; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (e) A statement is attached.

### **STATEMENT**

The Canteen Stores Department (CSD) is a Department under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence. The CSD makes bulk purchases of consumer goods from manufacturers/whole-salers and sells

them to Unit Run Canteens (URCs) of the Armed Forces. The CSD does not directly retail any commodity. The Unit Run Canteens are not Government organisations. They are owned by the respective Armed Forces formations.

2. All duties, taxes and other imposts of the Central Government are levied on goods sold by the CSD and the URCs. There is, therefore, no loss of revenue to the Central Government on this account.

3. Full or partial exemption from sales tax and certain other levies/duties of State Governments/Local Bodies is available for the purchases made by the CSD and the retail sales made by the Unit Run Canteens from various States, Union Territories and Local Bodies except in Assam, Haryana and West Bengal which have not granted any exemption. Certain State Governments have not exempted luxury goods from sales tax. The percentage of exemption from sales tax/duties/other levies vary from State to State, Local Body to Local Body and from commodity to commodity.

4. The loss of revenue to State Governments and Local Bodies on account of the exemption granted by them cannot be worked out precisely as these vary from State to State and Local Body to Local Body and from commodity to commodity.

5. The Unit Run Canteens are not meant for retail sales exclusively for Defence Personnel. Certain other categories of civilian employees are also entitled to make purchases from them. Defence Services Personnel, Ex-Servicemen and civilian employees of the following Government

Organisations are entitled to purchase items from the Unit Run Canteens :

- (1) Ministry of Defence including its Attached Offices and employees of Lower Military Formations.
- (2) Employees of the Defence Audit Department.
- (3) Executive Officers of Cantonment Boards.
- (4) Employees of the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. working at Air Force station at Hyderabad. Employees of Air Force Stations at Jorhat, at Yelhanka and at Dundigal (Hyderabad).
- (5) Members of the Indian Defence Accounts Service.
- (6) Employees of the Border Roads Development Board Secretariat and the Dte. General of Border Roads.
- (7) General Reserve Engineering Force Officers and personnel.
- (8) Para Military Forces personnel when they are under the operational control of the Army.
- (9) Defence Security Corps personnel.
- (10) Serving and retired employees of the Canteen Stores Department.
- (11) Territorial Army (TA) personnel in an embodied State and TA pensioners.
- (12) Personnel of the P&T Department who on deputation have rendered a minimum of 15 years service with the Army

Postal Corps.

- (13) Whole time/part time NCC personnel and Cadets.
- (14) Personnel of the Special Services Bureau of the Cabinet Secretariat.

6. No accounts are separately maintained of sales made to eligible civilian employees. It will, therefore, not be possible to provide the estimated value of goods sold by the Defence Canteens to persons other than those belonging to Armed Forces.

#### **Shifting of DCII Office from Pune**

4142. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to shift the Development Commissioner Handloom (DCII) office from Pune; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and where it is likely to be shifted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir. There is an Office of the Regional Enforcement Officer at Pune under the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms.

(b) The functions of the Enforcement Office are to implement the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985. There is a blanket stay of the Supreme Court on the implementation of this Act and the Rules issued thereunder. Thus, there is no work in the Enforcement Offices. All the three Enforcement Offices presently working from the rented buildings are being shifted to nearest Weavers' Service Centres

(WSCs)/ Indian Institute of Handloom Technology (IIHTs), which are subordinate offices of the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms. This is with a view to save expenditure on rent, phone etc. Office at Pune may be eventually shifted to Bombay to be accommodated there in the WSC, Bombay.

#### **Absorption of Trade Apprentices in Ammunition Factory, Khadki, Pune**

4143. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum demanding absorption of trade apprentices in Ammunition Factory, Khadki was submitted to the Government in January, 1991;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) if no action has been taken so far, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Director General, Ordnance Factories (DGOF) had received a representation in this regard from an ex-Trade Apprentice.

(b) and (c) The position is that while under the Trade Apprenticeship Act, 1961, each factory has to provide Trade Apprenticeship for a specified number of persons, no obligation is attached on the Ordnance Factories to absorb every one of them so trained. This would depend upon the available work-load and vacancies for fresh recruitment.